

Senate Resolution 1338

By: Senator Ramsey, Sr. of the 43rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending First Afrikan Presbyterian Church on the occasion of its 15th anniversary; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church is now being led by the "transformative
4 and restorative" ministry of Dr. Mark A. Lomax, who, in 1993, accepted the charge to
5 establish a responsive and relevant faith congregation in the changing community of
6 Lithonia, Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, the commitment of its founding members provided both ministry and civic
8 service to the surrounding community which resulted in rapid congregational growth,
9 additional property development, the Vanessa Knight Education building, an active civic
10 role, and collaborative community action with other churches through Atlantans Building
11 Leadership and Empowerment (ABLE); and

12 WHEREAS, in 2003, the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church supported the establishment of
13 the First Afrikan Community Development Corporation to foster entrepreneurship,
14 educational achievement, improved family and personal health, and care for seniors; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Lomax has also served on a number of community and ecclesiastical
16 committees to advance the tenets of liberation theology and justice for all people, and his
17 graduate education and doctoral work provided the theological and social framework for the
18 development of an Afrocentric Christian Theology adopted by the founding community of
19 First Afrikan Presbyterian Church which has made it one of the fastest growing
20 congregations in the Atlanta Presbytery; and

21 WHEREAS, First Afrikan Presbyterian Church is a signature teaching ministry responsible
22 for community-wide experiences that generate opportunities for spiritual and cultural unity
23 through its Ancestral Walk, Conversations on Afrikan Spirit, John Henrik Clarke Community

1 Study, Kwanzaa Celebration, and other experiences offered through its Center for Afrikan
2 Biblical Studies; and

3 WHEREAS, the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church community cannot say what they will be
4 when the cosmic curtain is closed on this age; but they know that God is shaping and
5 molding them in accordance with His divine will and together they continue fighting the
6 beautiful fight of faith.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
8 join together to commend the congregation of the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church on the
9 occasion of the church's 15th anniversary and on their faith and service to the community.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
11 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the First Afrikan Presbyterian Church.